

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 3, 2003 LB 72

purposes. I think if we're asked philosophically to be putting money up for prize money at the fair, that our checkoff should also go to that purpose. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker and members, Senator Thompson is a good legislator, and she means well on this issue. This was my bill that put this in. I shouldn't say my bill. It was a lot of us' idea to put this in, with our so-called tokens of appreciation to the kids who did win a whatever, and to give them a dollar or two, or a ribbon, or a...you're taking that away from them? I just can't really see it. I don't think she's really being fair on this issue to suggest that we have to subtract every dollar, or whatever this amendment does. I think the people of Nebraska would really be...I really think the people of Nebraska would say, you mean we don't give but a dollar or two to support our State Fair? I really think the people would be...say, hey, what's going on here? I think they think that we...it's a State Fair, funded by the people of Nebraska, via the General Fund. I just really think they would be. And not have this done and jeopardize this tradition and this thing that's been going on for eons, you might say, I just think it's terrible to even think of jeopardizing it. I don't want to rattle on here, because we have more important issues, maybe. But to me, this is one of the most important issues we have going on. So maybe I'm stuck on it, maybe I'm prejudiced, maybe I'm biased, whatever you want to call me. I don't care what you call me. But let's keep the State Fair going. And whatever it takes, if it takes General Fund dollars, I support it. If it takes checkoffs, I support that.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. As the discussion continues, it seems to me there's some confusion. And we keep...people keep talking about how this might not pay for itself. But if you read the bill, it says the taxpayer...or, excuse me, the Tax Commissioner may use such funds...they're referring to the funds from the checkoff...to defray the cost of implementing the checkoff program under